



U.S.N. 09/973,302

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: David J. CHAIKO
Title: LIQUID CRYSTALLINE
COMPOSITES CONTAINING
PHYLLOSILICATES
Appl. No.: 09/973,302
Filing Date: 10/09/2001
Examiner: Katarzyna I. Wyrozebski Lee
Art Unit: 1714
Docket No. 051583-254

<p>CERTIFICATE OF MAILING I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date below.</p> <p><u>Joseph P. Meara</u> (Printed Name)</p> <p><u>Joseph P. Meara</u> (Signature)</p> <p><u>May 28, 2004</u> (Date of Deposit)</p>

TRANSMITTAL OF FORMAL DRAWINGS

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

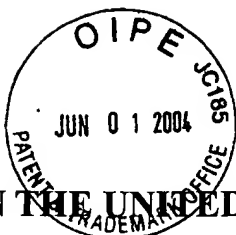
Transmitted herewith are the formal drawings (2 sheets, Figures 4 and 5) for the above-identified application. The Official Draftsperson is respectfully requested to approve these drawings for entry into the application.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 28, 2004

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
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By Joseph P. Meara
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COMMENTS ON STATEMENT OF REASONS FOR ALLOWANCE

MAIL STOP ISSUE FEE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

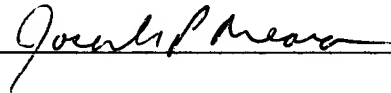
The Notice of Allowability on this application dated March 1, 2004 included a Statement of Reasons for Allowance. It was there stated that "the applicants have amended the claim to incorporate subject matter of objected claim 6 into independent claim 1. The limitation requires that the phyllosilicate be exchanged with hydrogen ions." Notice of Allowability, p. 3. Applicant wishes to point out that the claim does not require that the phyllosilicate be exchanged with hydrogen ions. Rather, the claim recites that exchange sites on the basal surface of the phyllosilicate are bound with hydrogen ions. Thus, as explained in the specification at page 12, paragraph 35 and page 13, paragraph 36, phyllosilicates naturally having hydrogen ions bound to the exchange sites of the basal surface as well as phyllosilicates in which hydrogen ions have

been exchanged for other ions at the exchange sites, are both suitable for use in phyllosilicate-polymer compositions of claim 1. The applicant notes that various other subject matter and/or combinations of subject matter may be patentable for other reasons than those given by the Examiner. The applicant expressly reserves the right to set forth additional or alternative reasons for patentability in connection with the present application or any future proceeding.

Respectfully submitted,

Date May 28, 2004

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